



## **Week 5 Assignment**

### **Overview**

Consider the outcomes of this course and the extent to which the outcomes will influence your role as an educational technology leader in your school and post a reflection to your blog.

## **EDLD 5368 Instructional Design**

### **Rubric**

Use the following rubric to guide your work.

| <b>Task(s)</b>    | <b>Accomplished</b>   | <b>Proficient</b>  | <b>Needs Improvement</b>  | <b>Unacceptable</b>  |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Reflection</b> | <p>Student summarizes course learning by providing thorough responses to each of the guiding questions provided.</p> <p>Responses show relevance to course content.</p> <p>No errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation</p> <p><b>(90-100 points)</b></p> | <p>Student summarizes course learning by providing responses to three or four of the guiding questions provided.</p> <p>Responses show some relevance to course content.</p> <p>Few errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation</p> <p><b>(80-89 points)</b></p> | <p>Student responds to two of the guiding questions, or responses do not adequately reflect course learning.</p> <p>Responses do not show relevance to course content.</p> <p>Responses lack clarity and depth and/or there are multiple errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation.</p> <p><b>(70-79 points)</b></p> | <p>Student responds to less than two of the guiding questions, or responses do not adequately reflect course learning.</p> <p>Responses do not show relevance to course content.</p> <p>Responses lack clarity and depth and/or there are multiple errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation.</p> <p><b>(Below 70 points)</b></p> |

## **Directions**

1. Reflect on what you have learned in this course by writing an entry on your Internship blog.
2. Assume a school leadership role as an educational technology campus facilitator, as the district educational technology director, or from the principal's view. From that vantage point, compose a 150-word response to each of the guiding questions.
  - *What benefits do you see in educators knowing how to design and implement online learning?*

Educators will experience a clear benefit from the ability to design and implement online learning when they see how much more engaged their students are. Students are accustomed to using technology and studies have shown that most students do better when they can use a hands-on and/or interactive learning approach. In the article by Haury and Rillero (1994) there are numerous examples of different subjects justifications for online learning but my favorite reference from the article is the Chinese proverb; I hear and I forget, I see and I remember I do and I understand.

Other benefits of being able to design and implement online learning include the consistency from one class presentation to another and one year to another. The ability to evaluate how the students are progressing and the option to modify your lesson are very useful features of an LMS because you can make changes online that students will see immediately and you can send them a message at any time.

One of my favorite features of the LMS is the fact that material and information from far away places and wide spread learning communities can be accessed on the Internet. No classroom alone experience can possibly integrate as much as is available when you add the far reaching abilities of the Internet!

Haury, D. L. & Rillero, P. (1994). Perspectives of on-line science teaching. *The ERIC Clearinghouse for Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education*. Retrieved from <http://www.ncrel.org/sdrs/areas/issues/content/contareas/science/eric/eric-2.htm>

- *How will you professionally use your course that you designed?*

The course I designed for Schoology will be used to create a live LMS experience for teachers. I became CPE certified in Texas this year and will be modifying the course to offer for educators online. Internet safety is an important issue, and from the research I've done there are definitely not enough teachers discussing the topic in their classroom. This presentation will allow educators to learn at their own pace when they have the time. The survey from the first week of preparation clearly showed that teachers limit the training times they have available or are willing to make available for workshops.

The preparation of this course also gave me the opportunity to try out another LMS system. I have previously used Moodle and Keystoschool. I feel that I now have a better understanding of what options are available in most LMS and may make a better decision about what company I choose to use for future courses.

Staff and Wire Reports. (February 26, 2010). Study: Too few schools are teaching cyber safety. *eSchool News*. Retrieved from <http://www.eschoolnews.com/2010/02/26/study-too-few-schools-are-teaching-cyber-safety/>

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- *Will you integrate online learning in your role as a teacher/staff developer?*

As a staff developer, I intend to integrate the online learning on a more regular basis. I had already begun using online tools but as always, the ability to actually work with a tool first, has made the process easier and more appealing. Not often enough do educators have the chance to spend the time needed to learn about a new tool or topic.

Options for the online learning are for the students, teachers, staff and the community. I see the ability to create lessons online for community members as a very innovative method of improving the lives of our students and their families. If we, as educators, are already teaching our students life skills topics, why can't their families benefit from things like homework help and software tutorials?

The possibilities of learning experiences for all are endless if we will stop thinking inside the school and broaden our horizons to include the world that the Internet has made available to us.

Northwest Educational Technology Consortium (NETC). (2005). Online essentials. *K-12 Online Instruction for teaching and learning*. Retrieved from <http://www.netc.org/digitalbridges/online/essentials/>

- *What questions do you still have about online learning?*

I have two primary questions remaining about online learning. The first question is regarding what perception students and their families will have about learning online. The typical mentality regarding online learning is that it is intended for higher education. K-12 students have to have a teacher in a classroom setting, right? Online learning is not necessarily intended to replace a classroom experience. It should be used to enhance the learning. Online learning pros and cons are listed in the article cited below from K-12 Instruction for Learning. The presence of a teacher is also reiterated.

Along with this concern is how do administrators feel about some teachers fully utilizing the online lessons and others choosing not to? Personally, I don't see that many teachers creating their own LMS just yet. To initiate this in schools, there will have to be a primary person in charge of creating and assisting the teachers with their courses. Teachers will have an easier time of modifying and updating but I don't know if most of them are ready for creating their own.

The second question I have is how does all of this online learning tie in with FERPA? What can we really do or not? I haven't been able to get a clear answer on this. Can I set up my own LMS to use in my classroom for students? Does it have to be an LMS that the school "owns"? Do other districts just ignore FERPA and go "on with the show"? I don't know...yet.

- *What will you do with this new learning?*

This summer I plan to start creating online courses for my classes next year. There have been major changes in the course descriptions and TEKS for the CATE classes that I teach. This is a good time to start fresh with my lesson plans. I can create units and incorporate the TEKS record into the online courses. Then, as my classes work through the lessons next year, I can easily make adjustments to material as I evaluate student progress. (Or, lack thereof!)

Another plan I have is to create online professional development for use by educators. I will use the LMS to create presentation options for paid workshops and to use in a proposed presentation for TCEA. This will allow me to create a library of workshop options and modify them as needed by each school district.

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At some time in the future, I plan to be a developer for online learning management systems. It is something that I have really come to enjoy!

3. Write reflectively instead of in question-and-answer style.
4. Submit your link to your blog entry to your Academic Coach no later than 11:59 p.m. on the seventh day of Week 5.

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### **Workspace**

Provide the link to your course blog, with your reflection responses, below.

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Student Name: | Ellen Zimmerman   |
| Blog link:    | <a href="http://ezimmermanportfolio.wikispaces.com/Course+Discussions">http://ezimmermanportfolio.wikispaces.com/Course+Discussions</a> |